



CUMBERLAND HOUSING GROUP

Monthly Newsletter For December 2023



Exterminator Schedule

- December 14th Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 7 – 17
- December 8th Jane Frazier Village, Buildings 1 – 6 & Banneker Gardens
- December 21st River Bend Court & 1034 Frederick Street

Merry Christmas from the Cumberland Housing Group Board, Administration, Property Management, Maintenance & Security



The Cumberland Housing Group Offices Will be Closing at Noon on December 13th and will be closed December 25th in celebration of Christmas!

Allegany College Scholarship

If you are attending Allegany College, live in one of our communities and qualify for financial aid, the Housing Authority scholarship may be just for you.

The scholarship picks up transportation, lunches and expenses not covered by your Pell Grant.

Applications can be picked up at the Housing Authority Office. Deadline to apply for the Spring Semester is Friday, December 15, 2023.



Snow Removal

A major concern during winter is the **clearing of ice and snow**. Residents of Jane Frazier Village, River Bend Court & Banneker Gardens are responsible for clearing ice and snow from the front and rear sidewalks leading to their units within 24 hours of the end of precipitation as per City of Cumberland ordinance. Residents who fail to promptly clear their walks within that time will be charged when the Maintenance Department has to perform the work. Residents should exercise good judgment in placing snow that they remove from the walks. Never throw it out into the streets or other areas where your neighbors or the Maintenance Department will have to move it again. Do not place shoveled snow against the building or foundation. Please do not use salt or other chemicals on your walks as they damage the concrete, grass and plants. You can use kitty litter. The Maintenance crews get to the public walks and drive areas as soon as possible. Residents may be required to move their vehicles to allow for clearing of snow.

COLA Increase 2024

Award Letters Must Be Given to Managers

Please report your increase to your property managers as soon as you get your statement of increase.



Notice to Cumberland Housing Residents

Public Awareness Program Message Natural Gas Safety Instructions

Natural gas for your appliances is delivered through a jurisdictional natural gas pipeline system. The system is a safe, reliable and efficient way to deliver natural gas for your heating, water heating, cooking, and clothes drying needs. Although safe, tested and regulated, the system's most common hazard is from 3rd party damage from excavation. Before digging or excavations are done, contact Miss Utility at 1-800-257-7777 or 811 and call Cumberland Housing at 301-724-2055. Please read the following safety information:

*Natural gas, like all forms of energy and like many other products found in the home, is capable of doing damage and **MUST** be used properly. Here are some facts everyone should know about gas and gas operated equipment:*

Gas Accidents can be avoided when you follow these safety rules:

1. Teach children that they are not to turn on or light appliances
2. Keep combustibles (curtains, paper, and fluids) away from any open flames.
3. If lighting is required - always light match first and hold it at point of lighting before you turn on gas.
4. Keep burning surface clean of dirt, match ends, grease, etc.
5. Repair and installation is a job for experts. Never attempt to do it yourself.
6. Use equipment for the job it was intended to do - for example, an oven should NOT be used to heat a room.

Your senses can help you to discover a gas leak.....

- >SMELL: A distinctive odor has been added to natural gas so that less than 1% of gas in the air can be detected.
- >SIGHT: In some appliances you can see the flame so you know it is working.
- >TOUCH: With some appliances you can feel overheating or cold in the burner area which would indicate trouble.
- > HEARING: If the flame sounds unusually noisy, it may not be burning properly.

If you smell gas:

1. NO FLAMES OR SPARKS! – Immediately put out all smoking materials and pre-existing open flames. Do not operate lights, appliances, telephones or cell phones. Flames or sparks from these sources can trigger an explosion or fire.
2. LEAVE THE AREA IMMEDIATELY – Get everyone out of the building or area where you suspect gas is leaking.
3. REPORT THE LEAK – From a neighbor's home or other nearby building away from the gas leak, call your natural gas supplier right away. If you are unable to reach your natural gas supplier, call 911 or your local fire department.
4. DO NOT RETURN TO THE BUILDING OR AREA - Until your natural gas supplier determines that it is safe to do so.
5. GET YOUR SYSTEM CHECKED - Before you attempt to use any of your natural gas appliances, your natural gas supplier or a qualified service technician must check your entire system to ensure that it is leak free.





**Boys and Girls Club
After School Program**

**Banneker Gardens
Community Room**

Free – No Fee to Participate

Drop by the Center to pick up an application.

Monday thru Friday 3:30 pm – 6:00 pm

**Help with homework, games, crafts
and snacks are provided.**

FOOD GIVEAWAY!

December 21, 2023 Time: 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm.
St. John’s Lutheran Church.
Located in the church parking lot.
400 Arch Street, Cumberland

Hope Station Wellness & Recovery

Fresh Produce
December 15, 2023 at 10:00 am
until supplies last
Located at 632 N. Centre Street
For more information call
240-362-7168

*Happy
Holidays!*



Holiday Safety Tips

- Keep tree away from heating vents.
- Use only lights that have been tested for safety.
- Don’t use more than 3 sets of lights per extension cord.
- Never run cords under rugs or carpet.

Need Help to Quit Smoking?

Are you or someone you know trying to quit smoking? Did you know there are 2 FREE ways to quit? Just call the Allegany County Health Department at 301-759-5093 or Maryland’s Quit line at 1-800-784-8669.

Are You a Victim of Domestic Violence?

If you or someone you know is in a Domestic Violence situation and needs help, please call the Family Crisis Resource Center Hotline 301-759-9244 for assistance.

Crime Solvers Tip Line 301-722-4300

www.allegany-mineralcountycrimesolvers.com

To report **suspected Drug Activity**, leave an anonymous tip at 301-759-4660.

YMCA Play Group

River Bend Court Community Room

December 12th at 10:30 am

Ages 5 and under!

Come have some fun.

Holiday Decorations

1. No live Christmas trees on any CHG properties.
2. Holiday lights and decorations are permitted indoors provided that no damage is done to the unit. Taping lights and decorations to the walls and woodwork is not permitted as it leaves a sticky residue and can remove the finish.
3. No lights or holiday decorations are allowed on the outside of rental units. Due to health and safety violations, electrical cords are not permitted to be run through the windows and doors at any time.
4. No lights should be left burning during the daylight hours and should be turned off by 11:00 p.m.
5. Tenants of buildings with interior halls, elevators, railings, stair towers, etc. are not permitted to place any decorations in or on any of these areas except for the main entrance/lobby and community room areas of the building WITH prior approval of the Property Manager and adhering to all other rules contained herein.



DECEMBER 2023

Western Maryland Job Centers offer FREE online workshops!

Western Maryland American Job Centers offer online, virtual workshops that are FREE to the public. Registration is required in advance. Please follow the registration directions and include in your communications, your name, phone number and the title of the workshop for which you plan to participate. Facilitators may ask for additional proof of identification, upon registration.

Resume ABCs

December 1 (10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Learn strategies about how to create a successful resume.
Register by emailing Deborah.Wachter@maryland.gov

Basic Interviewing Skills

December 5 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)



Learn interview styles and tips about effective interviewing. Register by emailing BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov

Interviewing Techniques

December 6 (10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.)



Learn employers' tips about successful interviews. Register by emailing Cassandra.Baker@maryland.gov

Federal Jobs

December 8 (9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)



Learn techniques for finding the right federal job. Register at least one week prior to the scheduled workshop by emailing Jennifer.Allnutt@maryland.gov

Job Searching Using Social Media

December 12 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)



Learn how to use and find open jobs on social media. Register by emailing Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov

In Search of Remote Work

December 15 (10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)

Learn how to find remote jobs and whether they are right for you. Register by emailing Jennifer.Allnutt@maryland.gov

Job Searching Using Social Media

December 19 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)



Learn how to use and find open jobs on social media. Register by emailing Katie.Marvin@maryland.gov

Basic Interviewing Skills

December 19 (1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.)



Learn interview styles and tips about effective interviewing. Register by emailing BenjaminJ.Russell@maryland.gov

Know Your Rights

December 21 (11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)



Learn from Legal Aid about expungement and employment rights. Register by emailing mstevens@mdlabor.org

Starting Over After a Job Loss

December 22 (10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)

Find out about coping and job seeking strategies. Advanced MWE registration is required for this workshop. Register by emailing Jennifer.Allnutt@maryland.gov

LinkedIn for Job Seekers

December 29 (10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.)



Learn to build a successful LinkedIn profile for job seeking. Register by emailing Karl.Kohler@maryland.gov



Equal Opportunity Employer/Program: American Job Centers are committed to diversity in the workplace and do not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, gender, age, orientation, national origin or disability. Auxiliary aids and reasonable accommodations are available upon request.

WES MOORE, GOVERNOR • ARUNA MILLER, LT. GOVERNOR • PORTIA WU, SECRETARY

